

UNI-VERSE

Chair persons *Bill Coburn & Ruth Deussen*
October 2009



The Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Marion County., Florida, Inc.

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Forum 9:30 Sunday Services 10:30

Welcome back to the Snow Birds that have starting to arrive.

Hurry home but have a safe trip

October 4th

Speaker: Charles Compton – “Who Is the Terrorist?” There is occasionally a tendency to use epithets to describe the behavior of others. This is both counterproductive and a sure way of helping us forget that we, too, may have some culpability for differences that lead us to call others “the terrorists”. A little history suggests that we have not been without blame on occasion.

Forum: Dr. Gene Serra will present “Experience with American Medicine for 43 Years”

Building and Grounds Duty Person: Open: Marciano, Close: Denison

A/V Operator: As assigned by Robert Ridgard

Coffee & Hospitality: Fran Marciano and Mary Ann Donato

Greeters: 9:15 (and 10:10): Susan Ashley and Cindy Kuckel 10:10 only: Margaret Dawson and Tom Garman

Service Leader: Doug Worthington

October 11th

Speaker: Meredith Garmon – "Rationality" *To one degree or another, most of us were attracted to UU by the appeal of a more rational faith tradition. But what is rationality? And how come it sometimes supports acceptance of one another and sometimes seem to leave us less accepting of one another. ."*

Forum: Meredith Garmon - Unitarian Universalism

Building and Grounds Duty Person: Open: Griffith, Close: Kelch

A/V Operator: As assigned by Robert Ridgard

Coffee & Hospitality: Barbara Schuster and Wendy Griffith

Greeters: 9:15 (and 10:10): Ed and Mary Hord 10:10 only: Isabel Bligh and Gene Sessions

Service Leader: Mary Ann Donato

October 18th

Speaker: Jim McIntosh – "A Brief Pause By A Snowy Woods" *This will touch on a short version of UUFMC history that has brought us to this point. We should stop for a moment to appreciate what has been accomplished but realize that we must go on from here. We live in the moment but the past was our roadway to now. The now is a prelude to what is to come.*

Forum: Ruth Deussen - A Baker's Dozen of Creation Myths

Building and Grounds Duty Person: Open: Coburn, Close: Barefield

A/V Operator: As assigned by Robert Ridgard

Coffee & Hospitality: Betsy Gilleland and Lucia Beall

Greeters: 9:15 (and 10:10): Phil Edgington and Jim Urell 10:10 only: Keith and Carole Carver

Service Leader: Ann Barefield

October 25th

Speaker: Dick Chady -- "Now is the Time" *On this Association Sunday, we celebrate all that makes us unique yet also all that makes us one. Let us dream dreams of all that we can do . . . together. Dick will share the thoughts of Erik Walker Wikstrom.*

Forum: Film provided by Rita and Robert Ridgard Science, Reason and Religion by Neil deGrasse Tyson

Building and Grounds Duty Person: Open: Hord, Close: Mitchell

A/V Operator: As assigned by Robert Ridgard

Coffee & Hospitality: Mary Hord and Barbara Thomas

Greeters: 9:15 (and 10:10): Louise and Mark Colussi 10:10 only: Ann Leuders and Fran Marciano

Service Leader: Dick Chady

The Wit and Wisdom of Benjamin Franklin – Celia Friedenthal

Ambition often spends foolishly what avarice had wickedly collected.

Happy Birthday

10/08 O'Connell Diane
10/10 Saphian Marcy
10/18 McCabe* John
10/23 Erickson* George
10/30 Chady* Dick
10/30 Hill* Don

If you do not see your name here and you want us all to celebrate your Birthday then email / call Bill or Andrea Coburn, Millie Mitchell or other membership folks.

President's Message for October

I found this message written by Tom Owen-Towle very interesting and am sharing it with you in my monthly message.

*God does not die the day when we cease
to believe in a personal deity, but
we die on the day when our lives cease
to be illuminated by the steady radiance,*

*renewed daily, of a wonder, the source
of which is beyond all reason.*

-Dag Hammarskjold

We humans cannot kill or keep God alive. Deity's fate is beyond our control. Therefore, we ought to spend time taking care of ourselves rather than worrying about God.

I agree with Hammarskjold. We can afford to lose a lot of qualities, but a full-fledged sense of wonder is not one of them. Wonder pushes us beyond our rationality. It thrives beyond logic.

*We live potently when propelled by a sense of wonder, "the source of which is beyond all reason."
-Tom Owen-Towle*

*The **UU Book Club** will meet at 10 AM on Oct 22. The book will be Vic Stengers' "The New Atheism"*

*The **UU Singles Group** will go out for lunch on Sept. 27th and Oct. 25th. We'll meet in UU lobby following the Sunday service. The UU Day Trippers will hold their next planning meeting at 1:30, Tuesday, Sept 29th, at the UU Fellowship. Rona*

***Spinoza's Lens Science Club** Meets every Tuesday at 10 AM. The present Series on the Life, philosophy and outlook of Albert Einstein will continue into December.*

Separate Tables

We're going back to Felix's in Ocala, 11:30 AM, on Thursday, October 15!!! If you can resist having just a scrumptious dessert, you can either order from the menu or try their new \$10 buffet: choose from two soups, two salads, two pastas with sauces and a baked pasta.

Please sign up at the back table BUT remember to cross your name off if you cannot attend. This is a very popular restaurant and I've reserved seating for thirty. If we have a larger number, I can change it.

Carolyn Denison, 245-0260

Request of Members and Friends

An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) is a device when used in cases of cardiac arrest, the patient has a 70% chance of survival until emergency medical personnel arrive. Because of this statistic and the age of many of us, the Board agreed to pursue the purchase of an AED. You may have seen an AED used on TV – it's the machine with the paddles that can restart a heart that has stopped beating.

Because the AED is designed for use by lay persons, the plan is to purchase one and have a cadre of volunteers trained in its use in an emergency. The volunteers will be certified for two years.

The cost of the AED is \$1,550. This expense is outside our budget. I am writing to you to ask for your financial help to have this device installed at UUFMC. Next Sunday and for two Sundays afterward there will be a basket at the back of the Fellowship. You can place your donation in this basket or give it to me directly. Your donation can be cash or a check made payable to UUFMC. Please indicate AED on the check.

If you have any questions or want to help with this effort, please let me know. More information about volunteering for training in the use of the AED will come at a later date. Wendy Griffith

Olin Mills picture taking – Carolyn Denison

Our church will be producing a pictorial directory with Olin Mills. Please set aside either **November 6 or 7** to have your picture taken. More information will be forthcoming in the next few weeks.

Potluck Dinner: Please mark your calendar to attend the next potluck dinner on **October 12, 2009** at 5:00 pm at the Fellowship. After dinner, there will be a discussion about how to manage our growth at UUFMC. Please bring a dish and your ideas about how we can best facilitate and manage our Fellowship as we grow.

Connection Groups

Last March, approximately 40 members/friends started on a journey by joining Connections Groups. This journey enabled them to enhance their ties to our Fellowship by learning about the members of their group while exploring an assortment of topics concerning everyday living.

It is now time to renew, enroll and commit to other year of fellowship and exploration. The Connections Groups will be reforming for the November, 2009 – October, 2010 year. Again, you can choose to join a group by the time most convenient for you. Please see the list of possible days and times at the end of this note. (Priority will be extended to any member of a group that is currently meeting on the day/time specified. We ask

only that you let us know you want to continue in the group by selecting that day/time and returning the completed form so we know what groups are filled and what groups can still take on new members.) The maximum size for a group is 12 members.

Hardcopies of the brochure explaining Connection Groups with the registration form will be available after service on **October 4th and 11th**. In the meantime, if you have any questions, see Ann Barefield, Wendy Griffith or Fran Marciano.

The deadline for joining a group is **October 15, 2009**. The new year begins **November 1, 2009**.

From the Building and Grounds Committee

You may have noticed the garden area and trees as you enter the parking areas of our Fellowship. These things did not happen by accident. There are several people who have worked diligently to beautify our property. You may wish to acknowledge them. Ed Hord has provided leadership for the B&G Committee during this past year and has been responsible for much of the progress that has been made. Unfortunately Ed has to resign as Chairman because of health issues, but will continue to serve on the Committee. You may have seen Cindy Kuckel with a shovel planting shrubs or a hose making sure they survive. This is one hard working lady. The fact that the weeds are being controlled around the peripheral shrubs are largely due to Bill Denison dedicated spraying with Round-Up. We depended to a large extent on what shrubs to plant and where to plant them on Master Gardener Helen Ogren.

In addition to recognizing all of the dedicated members of the B&G Committee, I would like to express our appreciation to all of you who have donated to our Memorial Garden and to the Committee. I particularly want to thank Pat Gannett for her generous donation of the two live oak trees that you may see on each end of the retention pond.

Dick Bassette, Chairman, B&G Committee

UUFMC magnetic name tags may be ordered by signing the clip board or contacting andreacoburn@thevilages.net

UUFMC church calendar

A number of groups have changed their meeting times. Please let Andrea know what dates and times you would like to use the building so that the October calendar can be updated.

Thanks, Andrea

COFFEE COMMITTEE

A huge THANK YOU to all of you who have helped with the serving and the cleaning up of the refreshments on Sunday mornings. It's a significant task to get the food on dishes, the coffee made and the other preparations done for the social time we have all come to enjoy and to expect. Putting the food away, getting the cups and dishes into the dishwasher and doing the rest of the clean-up is even a bigger job. So, to the assigned coffee committee members and to those who have volunteered to wander into the kitchen on a Sunday morning and help out, we are truly grateful. If others would like to also come forth on a Sunday morning and offer their services, we would welcome them and their assistance.

New articles above

x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x-x

Reprint articles below

Choir Rehearsal: *The choir rehearsal is on Thursday at 1:00 pm each week. Anyone interested in joining this group is invited to attend. We hope to sing at least twice a month this year and hope you will join us. Ann Barefield will direct the choir until our terrific director, Al Pinter, returns in October. Please join us!!*

October Board Meeting: *The October Board Meeting will be held on Monday, October 12, 2009 at 1:30 pm in the Meeting Room at the Fellowship. Members are welcome to attend the meetings. If you have items for the agenda, please let Ann Barefield know by Wednesday, October 7, 2009. From 1:30 to 2:30 pm, the Board members will be discussing the book by Mike Durall titled *The Almost Church Revitalized*. Members are welcome to participate in these discussions.*

*The next meeting of the **UU Daytrippers** will be at 1:30 PM of Tuesday September 29 '09. Please join us as we discuss options for future Day Trips with UUFMC friends.*

Spinoza's Lens Science Club

September 29 10 AM to Noon

Albert Einstein Physicist, Philosopher, Humanitarian

In these lectures we will take a closer look at Einstein's growing opposition to the notion that Quantum Theory is a complete description of the micro world and why Einstein's theology may have influenced his views on this. We also follow Einstein's Lonely and unsuccessful quest for a Unified Field theory in Princeton New Jersey, a theory which would have unified all of physical reality into one classical field theory. In addition, we get a glimpse of Einstein's personal life in America and his passion for social activism, including his close ties with the African American Community in pre civil rights and racist Princeton.

Bob Zannelli

Meditation Group. *The meditation group will meet every **Monday at 10:00 am**. Reverend Garmon will conduct the group when he is scheduled, and a lay volunteer will lead the group on the other Mondays. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a smile.*

Humanist Meeting **September 28** Monday 2 PM

Due to scheduling conflicts the Humanist meeting has been moved to Mondays at 2PM. If this proves to be a problem for too many we can discuss other possibilities at this meeting. Our topic on the 28 of September will be what does Humanism mean to you, aided by a video featuring Isaac Asimov. We should have a lively discussion. Bob Zannelli We will set the day, time, and topic for the next meeting at that time.

UU Day Trip Group update

Oct. 14th

Fiddler on the Roof

\$69 per person

includes Bus , Dinner and Show

to reserve call Senior Adventures @ 352-753-5404

Mention UU Travel Club

The sooner you reserve the better chance of getting front row seats with fellow UU's

Oct. 17th

Cedar key Seafood Festival

\$30. per person

to reserve call Senior Adventures @ 352-753-5404

Mention UU Travel Club

For more information call Robert Ridgard 352-751-0019 or Rona Gold 353-750-3913

Tri-County Interfaith Group Meeting
Tuesday, October 6, 2009
7:00 pm

Unitarian Universalists

Who Are They?
Who Are They?



Location: New Covenant United Methodist Church, 3470 Woodridge Dr., The Villages, FL 32162

Directions: The church is located just one block off Highway 466 on County Road 101, behind Southern Trace Shopping Center, The Villages, Florida.

UUA TRUSTEE TIDBITS

Joan Lund, October 2009

Perhaps you are feeling cooler, crisper weather where you are in our beloved District but it remains mighty hot in humid in Tampa. Luckily, as this column is being written we have been experiencing a quiet “h” season. Let it continue to be so. Many of you realize there have been some major transitions in our ministry to youth and young adults, following the 2007 Summit on Youth Ministry and the Consultation on Ministry to and with Youth. Both of these events can be found by linking to them on our UUA web site. The re-organization at our UUA Office of Youth and Young Adult ministries, the topic of this month’s writing.

The UUA Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries exists to support all UU youth and young adults. It is a part of the Lifespan Faith Development staff group, and helps support the development of curricula and resources for lay and professional religious educators. One of the more prominent resources is Our Whole Lives, the sexuality education curriculum. The Youth Ministries Office also supports multi-faceted ministry through the Chrysalis Training Program, General Assembly Youth Caucus, advocacy for the needs of youth in our faith, and consultation on youth programming.

Part of the mission of the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministries is to advocate, educate, train, and develop resources for those involved in campus ministry. Often young adults face educational and career choices, relationship and family issues, and sometimes just the struggle of living life independently. The Office wants to support and help these young adults to feel at home within our young adult movement and help build a vibrant, sustainable, and accountable community. If your congregation is near a higher learning institution please consider developing a campus ministry initiative there.

As a faith it will be difficult for us to survive if we do not grow and nurture our children, youth, and young adults. For further information and assistance you can contact Erik B. Kesting, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries at ekesting@uua.org, Rev. Dr. Monica Cummings, Program Associate for Ministry to Youth and Young Adults of Color at mcummings@uua.org, or Nancy DiGiovanni, Bridging and campus Ministry and Associate at ndigiovanni@uua.org. Of course you may always contact me at jlund@uua.org or 813-931-9727 with your UUA thoughts and concerns. Happy Halloween, one and all.

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